


GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the City Administrator

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Muriel Bowser
FROM: Rashad M. Young, City Administrator 
DATE: January 8, 2016
SUBJECT: Update on FY 2015 Supplemental Budget Initiatives

The purpose of this memorandum is to follow-up on the previous memo of October 20, 2015 providing you with a status update on the implementation of the key initiatives for which you provided funding in the FY 2015 Supplemental Budget. A synopsis of the initiatives, and their status, is outlined below.

JOBS

Launching the Career Connections Program for At-Risk Young Adults: \$4.5 million

- Career Connections is a year-round employment program that will provide on the job training to approximately 400 at-risk 20-24 year olds (particularly in neighborhoods most affected by crime), connect them with education and training opportunities, and ensure their continued success by offering wraparound services and transportation subsidies.

To-date, 106 employers have been enrolled in the Career Connections program. The first Career Connections cohort began on Monday, December 7. Participants will spend the first 4-6 weeks of the program engaging in work-readiness training, completing individual assessments, and interviewing with partner employers for placement. During their work experience, the youth will be supported by success coaches or case managers via site visits, monthly one-on-one meetings, and professional development seminars. As of this writing, 259 youth have been referred to the program. There are 47 participants in the first cohort, with subsequent cohorts projected to consist of approximately 118 participants. The number of participants in the first cohort is lower due to the amount of individualized support the youth have needed to learn soft skills. Start dates for the cohorts are as follows:

Cohort 1: Monday, December 7

Cohort 2: Monday, January 4

Cohort 3: Monday, January 25

Cohort 4: Monday, February 15

Connecting District Residents with Government Jobs: \$2.3 million

- The Supplemental Budget includes funding for an expansion of the LEAP Academy program, which trains residents in growing fields and places them in jobs.



The LEAP Academy is open to all District residents, with a concentration on those who are receiving TANF benefits and are returning citizens. Applications for the program may be obtained at the Department of Employment Services (Office of Youth Programs, Project Empowerment, American Job Centers, and Senior Community Service Employment Program), Department of Human Services, Mayor's Office on Returning Citizens Affairs, or online at <http://does.dc.gov/leap>. Eligible candidates must be a DC resident; have a High School Diploma, GED or higher; possess basic computer skills; be registered on DCNetworks.org; pass a drug screening; and only apply for 1 of 3 employment opportunities. The deadline for the last LEAP Academy Cohort, which started on Monday November 30, was Friday, October 23.

- The Department of Public Works (DPW) will launch a Workforce Development Pilot to connect qualified individuals with approximately 25 jobs related to waste collection and fleet maintenance. In addition to hiring waste collectors, DPW will hire and train mechanics to maintain the District's fleet.

25 members of the current LEAP Academy cohort have been placed at DPW. The Workforce Development Pilot will become an employment pipeline for participants to move from the LEAP Academy to Automotive Services Excellence (ASE) training and certification to DPW as waste collection or fleet maintenance employees.

- The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) will hire approximately 29 customer service representatives to greet individuals as they enter recreation centers, helping improve the overall customer experience at DPR facilities.

38 members of the current LEAP Academy cohort have been placed at DPR (9 more than originally planned). The original group of 29 was to be hired at pay Grade 7. However, to allow the agency to hire more residents, the positions were made a Grade 5.

COMMUNITY

Supporting Neighborhoods: \$1.25 million

- The Supplemental Budget includes funding for 'min-grants' – to individuals and non-profits in select communities across the District – to strengthen resources related to violence and mediation, mentoring, youth enrichment, and family supports.

The DC Trust released the FY16 Community Partnerships Mini-Grants Initiative RFP on Tuesday, September 1, with Thursday, November 5 as the cut-off date for the initial funding round. The DC Trust received 53 Community Partnerships Mini-Grants applications for consideration in the initial round.

The applications were reviewed by panels that included community members from the designated neighborhoods, agency partners, and DC Trust staff. Funding determinations were made based on reviewer scores, and available funding in each designated neighborhood and program category. Based on these considerations, the Trust selected 28 of the 53 proposals for funding. The total investment for the first round of funding was \$779,763; leaving \$470,237 still available to be distributed in the next round. Additional details on the organizations selected for funding in round 1 are included herein as **Attachment 1**.

The Trust will continue to review proposals and make additional awards in early 2016. Areas of focus for the second round of funding will include Family Supports, Programming for Young Adults, and Mentoring. For the second round of funding, the Trust is considering 82 applications for all 5 neighborhoods. We anticipate announcing the second round award recipients by the end of January 2016.



Fully Implementing Body Worn Cameras: \$5.4 million

- Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) increase accountability, improve police services and enhance public safety. To that end, you set a goal of equipping all 2,800 MPD officers who regularly interact with the public with BWCs. To fully implement the program, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) requires additional funding to purchase 2,400 cameras (which will supplement the 400 BWCs currently deployed) and to cover the cost of Freedom of Information Act requests for BWC video footage.

In mid-November, MPD submitted a purchase order to Taser for the acquisition of 2,400 BWCs. On December 15 Council approved the BWC legislative package governing the use of, and public access to, BWC footage and you signed the emergency legislation on December 30. For the short term, MPD is using its P-cards to pay for video redactions required for Freedom of Information Action (FOIA) requests. For the longer-term, MPD will need to contract out the FOIA video redactions to a third-party vendor. OCP aims to issue a Request for Information next week to gauge private sector interest in providing this service; based on the responses, MPD will work with OCP to issue a Request for Proposals.

MPD will begin receiving the 2,400 newly-purchased BWCs by the end of February 2016 and will deploy them on the following schedule:

End of February 2016:	720 cameras will be deployed to the 3 rd , 5 th , and 7 th Districts;
End of March 2016:	720 cameras will be deployed to the 1 st , 4 th , and 6 th Districts, and 1 st and 6 th District Substations;
End of May 2016:	470 cameras will be deployed to the 2 nd District and 4 th District Substation; and
End of June 2016:	470 cameras will be deployed to the MPD Specialized Units, the Police Academy, and kept as spares.

Additionally, MPD has a Memorandum of Understanding with academic researchers from Arizona State University to analyze BWC footage. Currently, the researchers are conducting preliminary analysis from the 400 BWCs currently deployed in test and control groups in the Fifth and Seventh Police Districts.

RESOURCES TO FIGHT CRIME

Enhancing Security Cameras & Lighting: \$1.6 million

- You have committed to giving our law enforcement officers more tools to protect our neighborhoods by:
 - 1) Proposing legislation that will incentivize businesses, property owners and churches to install security cameras. The cameras will deter crime, and will assist MPD with investigations into criminal activity and vandalism.

When the Supplemental Budget was passed, DC Council inserted a requirement that the security camera program rules be authorized by legislation. Emergency legislation was drafted and approved by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs (OPLA), and was introduced in Council by CM Allen on January 5. At the introduction, CM May wanted to revise the emergency bill to also allow for vouchers to low-income residents. CM Allen committed to considering her proposal at the second reading of the temporary legislation (and the issuance of a second emergency bill). Deputy Mayor Donahue's office is working with OPLA and OCFO on the feasibility of CM May's proposal.



Emergency regulations have also been drafted and could be issued immediately upon enactment of the emergency legislation. The program will be administered by the Justice Grants Administration / Office of Victim Services, with the application available on the JGA/OVS website. Deputy Mayor's Donahue's office has been in contact with the Anacostia BID about providing computer access for Ward 8 residents without home Internet access.

The following is an outline of the application process, eligibility requirements, and additional programmatic information for the security camera incentive program.

Application Process:

1. Purchase the security camera system;
2. Complete the application form;
3. Verify the installation;
 - If the camera is installed by a licensed security camera installation business, self-verification of the installation (from the property owner or business owner) will be permitted, with the penalty to be levied against the business licensee if fraud is detected.
 - If the property owner or business owner installs the camera, District staff will visit the location to verify installation.
4. Register the security camera with MPD;
5. Rebate is mailed out.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The program will initially prioritize at least one neighborhood in each ward for eligibility. After that priority round is completed, the program will be available to all District residents.
- Applications must be received by August 15, 2016 so that verification can be completed and the rebate issued before program funding ends on September 30, 2016.
- The emergency legislation creates an O Fund for the \$500,000 allocated to this program; if money remains in the O Fund by the end of FY 2016, the program can continue on into the new fiscal year.

Additional Information:

- PSA borders are available on the MPD website at <http://mpdc.dc.gov/page/police-districts-and-police-service-areas>
 - Applicants can find their property's PSA online at <http://geospatial.dcgis.dc.gov/PSAFinder/>
 - Existing security cameras can be registered with MPD at <https://octo.quickbase.com/db/biickd9gf?a=nwr>
 - Security cameras must be facing the entrance to a building, the exterior of the building, or public sidewalks/streets. Cameras cannot be facing the interior of rooms.
 - The program will not involve live video feed access by MPD. Video will only be requested by MPD to assist with criminal investigations.
- 2) Proposing lighting upgrades for 8 recreation centers in neighborhoods that have experienced heightened crime to ensure they remain a safe place for residents to congregate.

DPR has entered into an MOU with the Department of General Services (DGS) to enable DGS's Protective Services Division (PSD) to complete the security assessments for all 8 sites, with a goal of completing the lighting upgrades by spring 2016. The recreation center sites are: Rosedale, Barry Farm, King Greenleaf, Emery, Brentwood, Bald Eagle, Congress Heights, and Columbia Heights. The MOU



was in an amount not to exceed \$30k, which will leave some funds available for more sites to be added at the end of the process if so-desired. A change order has also been submitted to DGS's Procurement Division to use capital dollars for some of the capital-eligible improvements at the Barry Farm Rec Center.

Supporting the District's Crime Lab: \$8 million

- The Department of Forensic Science's (DFS) Crime Lab plays a critical role in violent crime cases – and their analysis often helps law enforcement bring violent criminals to justice. Funding in the Supplemental Budget is included to fix longstanding issues including: resuming DNA Testing, reducing testing backlogs, and increasing staffing in essential scientific areas.

The following is a list of the more significant non-personnel actions proposed for DFS in the supplemental budget and their status: continuing contracts have been signed with 2 external laboratories for DNA outsourcing (and DFS is currently waiting for the AFO to provide OCP with funding certification for the third contract); additional training on new DNA methodologies has begun and will continue through February 2016; ANAB, the accrediting body, returned to the Forensic Sciences Laboratory for a re-assessment on November 30 and December 1, 2015;. Before DFS can resume DNA testing, it needs ANAB to issue its final reviews of the Crime Lab's progress. DFS anticipates DNA testing will resume in February.

Two months'-worth of local funds have been reprioritized to continue the contract with a third-party to reduce the Latent Fingerprint Unit's backlog (DFS is currently awaiting OCP to process the purchase order for a full year using Supplemental funds); local funds have been reprioritized to renew the Digital Evidence Unit's software license to analyze and process casework; and DFS is purchasing the annual license for DNJA JusticeTrax, its Laboratory Information Management System. Additional details on DFS's hiring actions are provided below and included herein as **Attachment 2**.

DFS's goal is to get its Crime Scene Scientists hired by February 2016 to deploy by August 2016. To-date, the following positions have been filled: Latent Fingerprint Unit (LFU) Forensic Scientist (2); Forensic Biology Unit (FBU) Forensic Scientist (1); FBU Technical Leader (1); Quality Assurance Specialist (1); and FBU DNA Unit Manager (1). Status updates on the remainder of DFS's hiring actions are included in **Attachment 2**.

- To ensure DFS retains valuable employees with important skill sets, you have also proposed legislation to allow retired MPD officers to return to work as DFS employees, without losing their pension.

The Committees on Health and Human Services and Judiciary held a joint public hearing on Wednesday, October 21 to consider this and other initiatives included in your Safer, Stronger DC legislation. Most of the public comments focused on other aspects of the Safer, Stronger DC legislation. OPLA reports that CM McDuffie's committee plans to hold a markup on the legislation on January 14.

Putting More Police on the Streets

- With crime scene investigator duties being shifted from MPD to DFS, this \$3.7 million in funding will enable MPD to return the 50 officers who currently work as crime scene investigators to everyday community policing initiatives.

DFS is working to hire the additional 31 FTEs for the Crime Scene Sciences Division. The Crime Scene Sciences Associate Director started January 11. Also, line positions have been posted online. Once the full complement of Crime Scene Search officers are hired, trained, and deployed, MPD will be able to return the existing District Patrol Officers who currently work as Reserve Crime Scene Technicians to everyday community policing initiatives. This is anticipated to occur by first quarter 2016. However, the Safer, Stronger DC legislation allows retired MPD officers to return to DFS without



impacting their pension. So the timing of the passage of the Safer Stronger Legislation will affect the timing of the hiring of these FTEs.

Testing for Dangerous Synthetic Drugs: \$326,000

- The Supplemental Budget includes funding for the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) and the Department of Health (DOH) to conduct Synthetic Drug Surveillance. The data collected will inform District officials about the level and prevalent locations of such use, and enable DOH to better educate the community on the inherent dangers of synthetic drug usage, and implement appropriate measures for those who have.

OCME has completed the recruitment process and hired candidates for the two Forensic Toxicologist positions. OCME has also submitted a FY 2017 Budget Enhancement Request to continue funding for the two positions after FY 2016.

If you have any additional questions or comments, or would like further briefing on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment 1: FY16 Community Partnerships Mini-Grants Initiative Update

Attachment 2: DFS Hiring Actions

